

HOUSE RESOLUTION 425

By Harrison

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Lucille Reed and the Sneedville Woman's Club for their supreme legacy of public service and civic action.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those exemplary civic organizations and their members who have contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of their respective communities and this State; and

WHEREAS, the Sneedville Woman's Club is most assuredly one such distinguished organization worthy of special recognition; organized in 1929 under the leadership of Miss Lucille Lee, Home Demonstration Agency, the Club was originally called the "Sneedville Community Club"; and

WHEREAS, in 1933, the Club voted to unite with the Federation of Women's Clubs, and in 1940, the Club's name was changed to "Sneedville Woman's Club"; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, the Sneedville Woman's Club has focused its efforts on public service, and the members have dedicated themselves unselfishly to making their community a better place to live; and

WHEREAS, the first important project of the Sneedville Woman's Club was sponsoring the Health and Agricultural Building, better known as the "Rock Building," the land for which was bought and deeded to Hancock County by Club members who had been appointed trustees of the building by the court; and

WHEREAS, the Club used three rooms of the building as a Community Center, one room as a library, and the largest room as the dining and recreation room; the Club fully equipped the kitchen and, in cooperation with the Baptist Missionary Society, purchased china and silverware for the service of two hundred people; the remainder of the building was used by the Health and Agricultural Departments of the county; and

WHEREAS, in 1942, the County gave the Board of Education permission to use the entire building for classrooms because of a lack of space; from 1948 until a new high school was built, part of the building housed the County Home Economics Department; today, the building serves as a material center for the entire school system of Hancock County; and

WHEREAS, in 1960, the Rock Building was sold to the Hancock County School System for \$20,000, which sum of money was then turned over to the county to help finance the Hancock County Hospital; the Sneedville Woman's Club proved instrumental in the building of the hospital, with two Club members serving on the hospital board; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, the Club sold a tract of land adjoining the Rock Building to the school system and, with those funds, furnished a patient room in the new addition to the Hancock County Hospital; the Club members helped a dental health program operate more efficiently by donating their time on Wednesdays to keep records and perform other needed tasks; additionally, they helped transport children to the Crippled Children's Hospital in Knoxville for care and rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, over the years, it has been the policy of the Club to contribute to innumerable worthy causes, including the American Cancer Society, CARE, Health Fund, March of Dimes, Muscular Dystrophy, Cystic Fibrosis, Boy and Girl Scouts of America, Youth Town, and other causes recommended by the General Federation of Women's Clubs; and

WHEREAS, the women of the Sneedville Woman's Club have also dedicated countless hours of their time to the cultural improvement of their community; in 1956, the Club sponsored the organization of a band at the high school, and, in 1966, the Club helped buy a piano for both Hancock Elementary School and Hancock High School; and

WHEREAS, the Sneedville Woman's Club sponsored the Regional Library in Hancock County and has donated funds to be used for the purchase of books; since the establishment of the library, several members of the Club have served on the library's board; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years, the Sneedville Woman's Club has contributed to the Tennessee Endowment Fund, Jennie Morgan Fund, and Pennies for the Arts; each year, the Club supports a poetry contest; in 1969, the Club financially supported the drama "Walk Toward

the Sunset," and, in 1970, the members sponsored art courses taught by Edgar Bowlin and Phillip Cheasley; and

WHEREAS, the Sneedville Woman's Club has championed numerous humanitarian causes during its laudable history, including the sponsorship of a British war orphan during World War II in cooperation with Save the Children Federation, the funding of 14 college scholarships, and contributions to Kingswood School in Bean Station; and

WHEREAS, the Club has also sponsored and promoted Special Olympics, The Early Learning Center, Teen Clubs, Animal Spay Clinics, beautification projects, and the local nursing home; and

WHEREAS, the women who comprise the membership of the Sneedville Woman's Club have achieved great success in the civic arena and should be applauded for their many worthwhile endeavors in service of their friends and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lucille Reed is one such outstanding member who should be commended for her selfless service to the Sneedville Woman's Club; for the more than 50 years Mrs. Reed has held membership in the Club; she has served in each area of the Executive Board, has chaired various committees, and has represented the Club by serving on district and state committees of the General Federation of Women's Clubs; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lucille Reed and the other members of the Sneedville Woman's Club should be recognized for their many good works to promote the public good and to inspire a true sense of civic responsibility among their fellow citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor Mrs. Lucille Reed and the members of the Sneedville Woman's Club for their meritorious community service, applaud their stalwart dedication to improving the quality of life in their community, and extend to them our best wishes for much continued success in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.